FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

# Intelligent Early Warning System for Avian Influenza

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A thesis submitted for the Degree of

Doctor of Philosophy


University of Technology, Sydney
April, 2011

# CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORSHIP/ORIGINALITY

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

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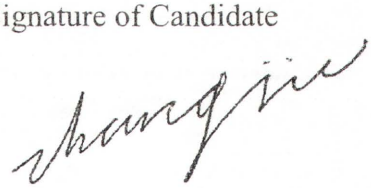

# Acknowledgements

I would like to express my earnest thanks to my principal supervisor, Professor, Dr. Jie Lu, for her precious guidance and most generous help during the three and a half years of my doctoral research. Her comprehensive guidance has covered all aspects including the initial idea, the organizations of the papers and even the sentence structure and academic writing skills. Her comments are critical, accurate and challengeable. Her strict academic attitude and respectful personality has benefited my PhD study and will be a great treasure throughout my life. I also wish to express my sincere thanks to my co-supervisor, A/Professor, Dr. Guangquan Zhang for his knowledgeable suggestions and wise advice. Without their careful supervision and continuous encouragement, this research could not have been finished on time. Thanks to you all for your kind help.

I wish to thank Professor Xiaowei Yang from the School of Mathematical Science, South China University of Technology, for his precious help in comprehending the nature of the support vector machine method; finally, I can establish and implement the support vector regression algorithm. Also, I am grateful to Nature News reporter Dr. Declan Butler for his kind help in providing the important avian influenza outbreak data from 2003 to 2006.

I would like to thank Ms. Barbara Munday and Ms. Sue Felix for helping me correct the English presentation in my papers.

I am grateful to all members of the Decision Systems and e-Service Intelligent (DeSI) Lab for their careful participation in my presentation and valuable comments for my research.

I am grateful to the School of Software in the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology at the University of Technology, Sydney. This study was fully supported by

an International Postgraduate Research Scholarship (IPRS) and UTS President's Scholarship (UTSP) scholarship.

I would like also to thank my family members. Thanks to my mother and father for their conscious encouragement and generous support. Thanks to my daughter for her lovely eyes; she is everything to me.

# Abstract

With the number of natural disasters has increased dramatically during the last decade, the early warning system (EWS) has become a necessary aid for all humankind in detecting incoming threats in good time, taking countermeasures beforehand and finally, mitigating the risks.

This research focuses on an intelligent epidemic EWS in the context of avian influenza. Computational intelligence (CI) techniques can provide cutting edge for an efficient and effective avian influenza EWS. The literature review reveals that the use of CI techniques in EWS is neither balanced nor systematic. This research proposes a conceptual framework and a technical framework as a guideline for integrating suitable CI techniques into an EWS from the aspects of structure, function and process. Following this guideline, we provide a hybrid knowledge-based prediction method which seamlessly connects case-based reasoning (CBR) and a fuzzy logic system to apply both implicit case knowledge and explicit expert knowledge in early warning prediction. In order to establish early warning in both a specific time and area, this research also puts forward two methods to address the issue. The first method is a seasonal auto-regressive based support vector regressive (SAR-SVR) time series prediction method, which applies SAR and Fast Fourier Transformation as the heuristic feature selection, and applies SVR to improve prediction accuracy. The second method employs one class classification (OCC) models by revising model combining policy and joining sub-classifiers OCC (JSC-OCC) methodology to realize the area risk mapping. Each method is followed by a validation with real world dataset.

Finally, an avian influenza intelligent early warning system (IEWS) prototype is implemented. The data used in the prototype system is real data collected from the

Internet, and thus the system could act as a validation means for this research. This prototype instantiates all the proposed approaches which can both estimate a risk level at a concrete location and map risk in a specific area in a specific time. The system realizes the consideration of involving suitable CI techniques in an EWS to form an IEWS with efficiency and effectiveness.

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